



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,511	09/22/2003	Douglas A. Beigel	25758	5823
20529	7590	08/17/2007		
NATH & ASSOCIATES 112 South West Street Alexandria, VA 22314			EXAMINER UTAMA, ROBERT J	
			ART UNIT 3714	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

ED

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/665,511

Applicant(s)

BEIGEL, DOUGLAS A.

Examiner

Robert J. Utama

Art Unit

3714

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --****Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3-6-07
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Art Unit: 3714

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Status of Claim***

1. This office action is a response to the applicant's response filed on: 06/06/2007. The current status of claims are as follow: Claim 1-24 are still pending. No claim has been withdrawn or cancelled.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claim 1-7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee US 5,788,508 (hereinafter Lee '508).**

**Claim 1:** Lee discloses a database which comprises of evaluation question and assessment question of various subjects (Lee '508 7:4-10 and col.1:24-34). Lee '508 also discloses a function in the system for an instructor to pick and choose material to be included (or excluded) in the evaluation and assessment part of the lesson (Lee '508 col. 9:60-65 and FIG. 11). These evaluation and assessment question are combined can be combined to form an assessment course (Lee '508 col. 10:24-29 and FIG. 16). Lee also discloses a server with a database in a telecommunication network (LAN) that causes a GUI (courseware) to be displayed to network access device to the server (Lee '508 col:4:37-48). The GUI presented at least presents a plurality of assessment courses (Lee '508 col.5: 49-55), receive response from the user to the plurality of assessment and evaluation question (col.5:5-15).

**Claim 2 and 3:** Lee discloses that the each assessment or evaluation question have different minimum score in order to be considered to be able to pass (col.10:1-4).

**Claim 4 and 5:** Lee '508 discloses that each response in the quiz or test are calculated and turn into scores (or grade) [Lee '508 col.7:9-16].

**Claim 6 and 7:** Lee '508 discloses that each quiz or test have its own threshold score that in order to be considered as passing (col:10:1-4).

Art Unit: 3714

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claim 8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee US 5,788,508 (hereinafter Lee '508), and further in view of Ho et al US 5,944,530 (hereinafter Ho '530).**

**Claim 8:** Lee '508 fails to teach the limitation of having the network being at least portion of global public internet.

Ho '530 teaches that the network of the computer-based-training to be part of the global internet.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to use the internet as the network to the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would enable people to take part in the training from anywhere in the world.

5. **Claim 9-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee US 5,788,508 (hereinafter Lee '508), and further in view of Samph et al US 5,195,053 (hereinafter 'Samph '033)**

**Claim 9 and 15:** Lee '508 fails to disclose a system that allows the user to respond using "Yes" and "No". However, Samph '033 discloses a method of allowing the user to respond with "Yes" and "No" (Samph '033 FIG 6D and col.17:45-55). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to "Yes" and "No" as a method to respond to the assessment question posed by the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would create a simple assessment test that is appropriate for all level of cognitive skill.

**Claim 11:** Lee discloses a database which comprises of evaluation question and assessment question of various subjects (Lee '508 7:4-10 and col.1:24-34). Lee '508 also discloses an function in the system for an instructor to pick and choose material to be included (or excluded) in the evaluation and assessment part of the lesson (Lee '508 col. 9:60-65 and FIG. 11). These evaluation and assessment question are combined can be combined to form an assessment course (Lee '508 col. 10:24-29 and FIG. 16). Lee also

Art Unit: 3714

discloses a server with a database in a telecommunication network (LAN) that causes a GUI (courseware) to be displayed to network access device to the server (Lee '508 col:4:37-48). The GUI presented at least presents a plurality of assessment courses (Lee '508 col.5: 49-55), receive response from the user to the plurality of assessment and evaluation question (col.5:5-15).

Lee '508 fails to disclose that the user would be able to receive a certification from the assessment course. However, Samph '033 teaches of a testing system which presents a certification (or license) for a successful completion of an assessment course (Samph '033 col:25:53-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to combine the teaching of presenting a certification as taught by Samph '033 to the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would enable people to maintain their qualification requirement (Samph '033 col.1:40-44).

**Claim 12:** Lee discloses that the each quiz or test to have different minimum score in order to be considered to be able to pass (Lee '508 col.10:1-4).

**Claim 13:** Lee '508 discloses that each response in the quiz or test are calculated and turn into scores (or grade) [Lee '508 col.7:9-16]. These score are tabulated and can be compared to the minimum score requirement in order to determine that the user have pass the exam or quiz (Lee '508 col.10:1-4).

**Claim 14:** Lee '508 fails to teach that the user will be presented a certification should both the determination step is positive.

Samph '033 teaches of a testing system which comprised of screening question and the actual exam (Samph '033 col.1:25-35) and in order for the user to be presented to the user they will need to pass the screening question and the exam (Samph '033 col.3:40-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to combine the teaching of presenting a certification as taught by Samph '033 to the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would enable people to maintain their qualification requirement (Samph '033 col.1:40-44).

**Claim 10 and 18:** Lee '508 describe that the user respond to the assessment by manually entering the answer on the keyboard. Furthermore, Lee '508 and Samph '033 fails to disclose a system that allows the user to respond using "Yes", "No" and "Not Applicable".

Art Unit: 3714

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use "Yes", "No" and "Not Applicable" in the system of Lee '508 because Applicant has not disclosed that using "Yes", "No" and "Not Applicable" as a user response provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected manually entering the answer on the keyboard, and applicant's invention, to perform equally well with either using would perform the same function of allowing the user to respond to the assessment question.

Therefore, it would have been prima facie obvious to modify Lee '508 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 15 and 18 because such a modification would have been considered a mere design consideration which fails to patentably distinguish over the prior art of Lee '508.

**Claim 16 and 19:** Lee '508 discloses that each response in the quiz or test are calculated and turn into scores (or grade) [Lee '508 col.7:9-16]. The examiner takes the position that each response is given an equal weight during the conversion to the grade.

**Claim 17 and 20:** Lee '508 describes a remedial program (deficiency macro), which explains the material when the user gives incorrect answer during the assessment and/or evaluation (Lee '508 Col. 7:25-40).

**Claim 22:** Lee '508 discloses a computer program and system which comprises of evaluation question (i.e: homework) and assessment question (i.e.:test) (Lee '508 7:4-10 and col.1:24-34). Lee also discloses a server with a database in a telecommunication network (LAN) that causes a GUI (courseware) to be displayed to network access device to the server (Lee '508 col.4:37-48). The GUI presented at least presents a plurality of assessment courses (Lee '508 col.5: 49-55), receive response from the user to the plurality of assessment and evaluation question (col.5:5-15).

Lee '508 fails to disclose that the user would be able to receive a certification from the assessment course. However, Samph '033 teaches of a testing system which presents a certification (or license) for a successful completion of an assessment course (Samph '033 col:25:53-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to combine the teaching of presenting a certification as taught by Samph '033 to the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would enable people to maintain their qualification requirement (Samph '033 col.1:40-44).

Art Unit: 3714

**Claim 23:** Lee '508 discloses that computer program in which each quiz or test to have different minimum score in order to be considered to be able to pass (Lee '508 col.10:1-4).

**Claim 24:** The computer program in Lee '508 discloses that each response in the quiz or test are calculated and turn into scores (or grade) [Lee '508 col.7:9-16]. These score are tabulated and can be compared to the minimum score requirement in order to determine that the user have pass the exam or quiz (Lee '508 col.10:1-4).

**6. Claim 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee US 5,788,508 (hereinafter Lee '508), in view of Samph et al US 5,195,033 (hereinafter 'Samph '033) and further in view of Ho et al US 5,944,530 (hereinafter Ho '530).**

**Claim 21:** Lee '508 fails to teach the limitation of having the network being at least portion of global public internet. Furthermore, the combination of Lee and Samph fails to rectify this deficiency. Ho '530 teaches that the network of the computer-based-training to be part of the global internet. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to use the internet as the network to the system of Lee '503. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to make this combination since it would enable people to take part in the training from anywhere in the world.

### ***Response to Arguments***

**7.** The applicant's argument is centered upon the interpretation of "a plurality of evaluation and assessment question" which are combinable to form assessment courses presented to the user. The applicant further put forth that the evaluation and assessment question serve different purposes (see Applicant's argument page 3 paragraph 3). However, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., evaluation question are presented to the surveyor, assessment question are used in self-assessment course to determine which question should be shown, question used in the self-assessment course to determine which question to be shown to the surveyor and (different) weights are assigned to each question based on certain degree of compliance) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the

Art Unit: 3714

claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

8. The applicant also argues that the Lee reference fails to anticipate the claim invention, since according to the applicant "it is the teacher who selects the question to be answered." The current limitation of the claim is being interpreted as a user of the system. Since the teacher and student in the Lee reference are user of the such system, the examiner takes the position that such disclosure from the prior art certainly reads on the applicant's limitation of having "a user to perform an assessment".

9. The applicant also argues that the Lee reference fails to anticipate the claim invention since it fails to teach a plurality of evaluation and assessment question. However, the Lee references provide a teaching where the questions are being used as a quiz (evaluation) or a test (assessment). In these scenarios, these questions form the plurality of evaluation and assessment question to be presented to the user.

10. The applicant's argument against the combination of Lee and Samph, since it fails to cure the deficiency of the Lee reference has been addressed in this office action (see number 7-9) and considered ineffective. Applicant's argument directed since the neither references provide a teaching on (different) weights are assigned to each question based on certain degree of compliance are not considered effective since such limitation are not present in the claim language and only present in the specification. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

#### **Conclusion**

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).



Art Unit: 3714

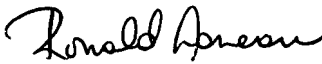
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J. Utama whose telephone number is (571) 272-1676. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezutto can be reached on (571)272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RU

  
RONALD LANEAU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

8/9/07